

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 FEA-01 INRE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 /093 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/BC/B:MWCOTTER:EO

APPROVED BY ARA:HARYAN

L/ARA:DGANTZ (PHONE)

ARA/BC:JEKARKASHIAN

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O 092149Z MAY 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, BL

SUBJECT: GULF BRIBERY CHARGES

REF: LA PAZ 3245

1. PRELIMINARY GULF RESPONSE, CONTAINED IN PRESS RELEASE
ISSUED LATE MAY 8 AND COMMUNICATED TO AMBASSADOR CAPRILES
MORNING OF MAY 9, GENERALLY AS REPORTED IN NY TIMES ARTICLE
OF MAY 9 TRANSMITTED IN WIRELESS FILE AS ARF 71. CAPRILES
REPORTEDLY INFORMED GULF REPRESENTATIVE NESTOR ORTIZ THAT
RESPONSE WAS UNSATISFACTORY AND THAT GOB WOULD HAVE TO
SUSPEND PAYMENT ON GULF INDEMNIFICATION IF FURTHER CLARIFI-
CATION NOT FORTHCOMING.

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2. GULF REPRESENTATIVE ORTIZ HAS 5:30 P.M. APPOINTMENT WITH AMBASSADOR CAPRILES, AT WHICH TIME HE WILL TRANSMIT FURTHER CLARIFICATION. GULF STATEMENT WILL ASSURE BOLIVIA THAT IT IS NOT THE COUNTRY INVOLVED IN THE \$4.2 MILLION CONTRIBUTION WHICH HAS RECEIVED NOTICE IN THE U.S. PRESS. ORTIZ SAID THAT HE IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, HOWEVER, TO ADD CAVEAT THAT GULF CANNOT COMPLETELY ASSURE CAPRILES THAT BOLIVIA IS INVOLVED IN NO POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS WHATSOEVER BECAUSE THE MATTER IS STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION. IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST THAT GULF CABLE THIS CLARIFICATION

DIRECTLY TO MINENERGY, ORTIZ TOLD DEPTOFF HE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO DO SO. DUE TO TIME FACTOR (48-HOUR LIMIT), ORTIZ SAID HE WAS DEALING ONLY WITH BOLIVIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON BUT WILL IMPRESS UPON CAPRILES IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNICATING INFORMATION TO GOB ASAP. HE REQUESTED THAT DEPARTMENT HAVE EMBASSY LA PAZ PASS SUBSTANCE CLARIFICATION TO GULF REPRESENTATIVE DORADO. KISSINGER

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05 JUL 2006

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To: LA PAZ
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